

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
CAMPAIGN FINANCE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE BOARD**

FINDINGS REGARDING THE MANKATO SOUTH CENTRAL AFL-CIO

Summary of Allegations and Responses

In response to an inquiry from the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board (“the Board”) Alice Weed, treasurer, 23rd Senate District DFL (#20417), confirmed that the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO, an association that is not registered with the Board, made contributions to the 23rd Senate District DFL on March 2, 2005, and October 19, 2005. The two contributions totaled \$150.

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13, prohibits an unregistered association from making a contribution in excess of \$100 to a registered political party unit unless, at the time the contribution was made, the unregistered association provides the recipient with the disclosure required by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.20.

By letter dated June 20, 2006, the Board notified the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO of the apparent violation. No response was received.

This matter was considered by the Board in executive session in its meeting on August 15, 2006. The Board’s decision was based upon correspondence from the 23rd Senate District DFL and Board records.

Relevant Statute

Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13. Unregistered association limit; statement; penalty. (a) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit must not accept a contribution of more than \$100 from an association not registered under this chapter unless the contribution is accompanied by a written statement that meets the disclosure and reporting period requirements imposed by section 10A.20. This statement must be certified as true and correct by an officer of the contributing association. The committee, fund, or party unit that accepts the contribution must include a copy of the statement with the report that discloses the contribution to the board. This subdivision does not apply when a national political party contributes money to its affiliate in this state.

(b) An unregistered association may provide the written statement required by this subdivision to no more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year. Each statement must cover at least the 30 days immediately preceding and including the date on which the contribution was made. An unregistered association or an officer of it is subject to a civil penalty imposed by the board of up to \$1,000, if the association or its officer:

(1) fails to provide a written statement as required by this subdivision; or

(2) fails to register after giving the written statement required by this subdivision to more than three committees, funds, or party units in a calendar year.

(c) The treasurer of a political committee, political fund, principal campaign committee, or party unit who accepts a contribution in excess of \$100 from an unregistered association without the required written disclosure statement is subject to a civil penalty up to four times the amount in excess of \$100.

Based on the above Summary of Allegations and Responses and the Relevant Statute, the Board makes the following:

FINDINGS CONCERNING PROBABLE CAUSE


There is probable cause to believe that the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO inadvertently violated Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.27, subdivision 13, by making a contribution to the 23rd Senate District DFL without providing the required disclosure.

Based on the above Findings, the Board issues the following:

ORDER

1. The Board imposes a civil penalty of \$50, one times the amount of the contribution in excess of \$100, for making a contribution to a registered political party unit without providing the disclosure required by Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.20.
2. The Mankato South Central AFL-CIO is directed to forward to the Board payment of the civil penalty, by check or money order payable to the State of Minnesota, within thirty days of receipt of this order.
3. If the Mankato South Central AFL-CIO does not comply with the provisions of this order, the Board's Executive Director shall refer this matter to the appropriate County Attorney for civil enforcement pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.28, subdivision 4.
4. The Board investigation of this matter is hereby made a part of the public records of the Board pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 10A.02, subdivision 11, and upon payment by the civil penalty imposed herein, this matter is concluded.

Dated: August 15, 2006



Bob Milbert, Chair
Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board